

LOUISA JANE WILSON FAITH
HER LIFE, LEGAL PAPERS AND MEMORIAL
20 December 2018 by Janet Gardner (GGG-Granddaughter)



For as long as I can remember I have seen this photo of Louisa Faith, (along with other ancestors) that my father, Bronson Gardner, has hung on our upstairs wall in our house. I would always look at her photo with interest, as she was so beautiful, and I felt a connection to her somehow. In 2004, genealogy became of interest to me. At that time, I was not looking at details- mainly just gathering photos. However, it wasn't until 2011 that I began to understand Louisa's life and what she went through. From that point, I have been intensely interested in learning all I can about her. Her life was brief. Without her I would not be here. She was brave and endured a lot of pain and suffering. I am grateful for her. If you can feel her spirit in this photo like I do, maybe you'll understand and appreciate her life and legacy. She is remembered with love.

Louisa's Early Life and Family

Louisa Jane Wilson Faith was my 3rd great grandmother. She was born on July 7 in 1848. Interestingly, her grandson (my grandfather), Jack Harding Gardner was also born on July 7, in 1921. Her short life of 36 years was hard. Her older sister, Mary, died in 1849 when Louisa was only a year old. Louisa's mother (Nancy Tenny) died in 1851 when she was only two years old.

She married James Bogard Faith (who was 21 years old) on September 5th, 1864, when she was 16. A year later, her father George Wilson died in Missouri in 1865 and her 23-year-old sister Olive died May 18, 1865 in Neosho, Kansas.

James B. Faith served in the Union Army during the civil war. He enlisted on July 11, 1862 in Captain Weaver's 71st Illinois Infantry, which became Company "G" 71st Illinois Infantry. The 71st Illinois Infantry was organized at Camp Douglas at Chicago, Illinois and mustered into Federal service in July 26, 1862 for a term of three months. It served in scattered garrisons in southern Illinois and western Kentucky. The regiment was mustered out on October 29, 1862 in Brownsville, Texas. He died as the result of a railway accident in Kansas City, Missouri on February 19, 1888.



James B. Faith (husband)

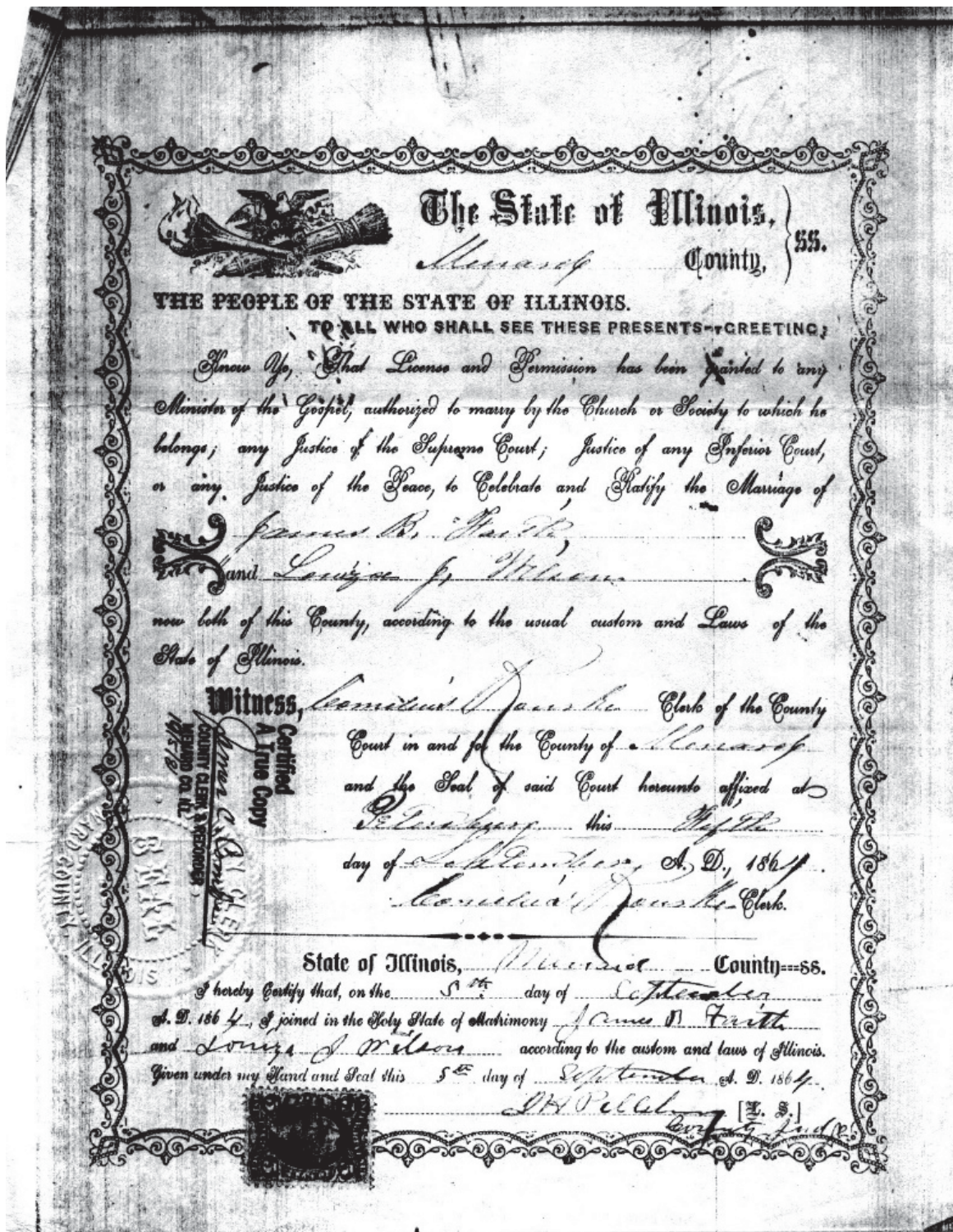
Comment from Faith Gardner:
While Mary Jane Blankenship (James's second wife) was still alive, she was asked to identify whether or not this is a photo of James. Her reply was "not sure ... maybe the eyes". This picture was originally provided to the Gardner family by his daughter, Eva's, family. James's brothers also had beards.

Robert Faith (Brother of James):



Silas Faith (Brother of James)





Marriage Certificate of James B. Faith and Louiza J. Wilson 5 Sept 1864.

Note: Louisa's name is spelled "Louiza" on this license. The license can be found online [here](#).

Louisa and James had 5 children. Her first child, born in 1868, a daughter named Idela (e.g. Ida) (according to her marriage certificate [here](#)) (Ida's name is also recorded as Ida Adella). Ida was my 2nd great grandmother. Their 2nd child was born in 1869, also a daughter, named Alice. Her third daughter, Martha, born in 1870, died when she was 2. Her fourth child, a son, George, born in 1873, died at age 2. Her fifth child, also a boy, Willie, died as an infant in 1874.

Marriage Certificate for Idela Faith and Robert Tier Yarrington

April 17, 1890

Marriage License.

State of Kansas, Franklin County, ss.

To any Person Authorized by Law to Perform the Marriage Ceremony, Greeting:

YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO JOIN IN MARRIAGE: Robert T. Yarrington
of Ottawa, aged 23 years, and Idela Faith
of Ottawa, aged 22 years, and of this License you will make due return to my
office within thirty days. [L. S.]

J. A. Perry
Probate Judge.

Certificate of Marriage.

State of Kansas, Franklin County, ss.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, a Minister of the Gospel in said County, do
hereby certify, that in accordance with the authorization of the within License, I did, on the 17
of April A. D. 1890, at Ottawa in said County, join and unite in Marriage the
within named Robert T. Yarrington and Idela Faith
Witness my hand, the day and year above written.

Official Title:

J. S. Davis
Minister

State of Kansas, Franklin County, ss.

I, The Undersigned, Probate Judge of said County, hereby certify the above to be a correct copy of the original Marriage License by me issued on the day first above
written, together with a copy of the return indorsed on such license by the person performing the marriage ceremony.

J. A. Perry
Probate Judge.

Louisa's Physical and Mental Illness and Commitment

It is clear that Louisa had many struggles that would lead to what modern society would call “severe depression”. In addition, she also suffered from a health issue that was termed “derangement of reproductive organs”. I’m not certain what this phrase means. It is open to many interpretations. It is possible this was a painful and hard to cope with condition. If Louisa was suffering from depression due to the loss of her children, then a serious medical issue could have easily caused her to also have serious mental problems. In addition, her husband James was gone for long periods of time (sometimes months) because of his work with the railroad – leaving Louisa in the position of being alone while she dealt with sadness, grief and physical pain.

In the 1870's, mental depression was simply called “mania”. In 1874, upon returning home, James found that Louisa was not in control of herself and took her to the authorities. On June 26, 1877, an Inquisition was held in Menard County, Illinois concerning whether Louisa and whether or not she should be judged insane. A legal Inquisition is a judicial or official inquiry or examination, usually before a jury. An inquisition is not a criminal trial.

The jury was satisfied that she was insane and should be sent to a State Hospital for the Insane. In addition, the jury stated that:

- a. they expected that her disease/condition would be of short duration (suggesting they thought her condition was mostly a medical condition that could be expected to heal.)
- b. that the cause of her illness was "derangement of reproductive organs" (suggesting some kind of physical disorder)
- c. that her condition was not hereditary
- d. that she was not subject to epilepsy
- e. that she did not manifest homicidal tendencies
- f. that she did manifest suicidal tendencies
- g. that was free from vermin
- h. that she was a pauper
- i. that she was in attendance during her Inquisition

She was admitted June 29, 1877 to the Illinois Central Hospital for the Insane in Jacksonville Illinois. Hospital records indicate that Louisa's appetite was poor and that she was in ill health. Their records also report that Louisa wanted to kill her children and wanted to commit suicide by jumping into the well and drowning herself. There have been unsubstantiated family rumors that Louisa actually killed her children. Hospital records confirm that this rumor is not true.

Her living children, Ida and Olive, were each taken to separate German families. Ida was 9 and Alice was 5. Ida became a servant girl to the Boeker family in Illinois. Her sister Alice was also sent to another family as a servant and raised by them.

In 1883, hospital records indicate that that she feared injury, but had a very good mental state. She was mostly stationary and very much physically impaired and that she “worked some” and “read some”. Over the course of her last 9 months of life, her tuberculosis increasingly worsened her until she finally died.

Louisa died at 10:15pm on September 14, 1884 (at the age of 36), at The State Mental Hospital, in Jacksonville, Illinois where she had been under the care of Dr. Henry Frost Carriel. The cause of death was tuberculosis. She had been a patient at The Jacksonville Insane Hospital for 7 years. The State buried Louisa on Sept 17, 1884. Her husband remarried a few months after she died.

The Jacksonville institution was different from other asylums (from which have emerged many horror stories). The grounds of this asylum were beautiful. There were majestic with open space and hundreds of acres green grass and many large Oak trees. It was a place to rest and heal your mind and spirit. This asylum was found by [Dorothea Dix](#).

Admit

STATE OF ILLINOIS, }
Menard COUNTY, } ss.

Of the *June* Term of *Menard* County
 Court, A. D. 1877.

IN THE MATTER OF AN INQUISITION

As to the Insanity of

Louisa Faith

On the *Twenty Sixth* day of *June* A. D. 1877,
 in proceedings had in said Court in the above entitled case, under the provisions of the
 law approved March 21, 1874, entitled "An Act to revise the law in relation to the com-
 mitment and detention of Lunatics," the Jury rendered the following Verdict:

We, the undersigned, Jurors, in the case of *Louisa Faith*
 alleged to be insane, having heard the evidence in the case, are satisfied that said
Louisa Faith is Insane, and a fit person to be sent to a State
 Hospital for the Insane; that *she* is a resident of the State of Illinois and
 County of *Menard* that her age is *29* years;
 that her disease is of *short* duration;
 that the cause is *dereangement of reproductive organs*
 that the disease is *not* with her hereditary; that *she* is *not* subject
 to Epilepsy, and that *she* does *not* manifest ~~homicidal~~ or suicidal tendencies;
 that *she* is free from vermin, and is not affected by any contagious or infectious
 disease, and is not an Idiot; that *she* is *not* a Pauper; and that said
Louisa Faith was in person actually present during
 said Inquisition, with full liberty to be heard in defense.

J. P. Antle M. D.

Robert Glazy

Isaac McDougall

Wm. A. Perry

John H. Gellermann

Abraham Kusbaum

STATE OF ILLINOIS, }
Menard COUNTY, } ss.

I, *Anson Thompson*

Clerk of the *County* County Court, certify that the foregoing is a true and
 full copy of the Verdict rendered on the Inquisition as to the Insanity of *Louisa*
Faith which proceeding was regularly conducted in said Court according to
 the provisions of the law approved March 21, 1874.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal
 of said Court, this *26th* day of *June*
 A. D. 1877

Anson Thompson

Clerk of County Court.

This document is part of the confidential health record of Louisa Jane Wilson
 (By July 7, 1848, Died 14 Sep. 1884), retained by the State of Illinois Department
 of Human Services. This document was release to Janet Gardner, ggg-granddaughter
 of Louisa Wilson, by Seventh Judicial Circuit Court Administrative Order No. 18-CA-20,
 Morgan County, Illinois, issued by Judge Jeffrey E. Tobin on Nober 26, 2018.

5718 Louisa Faith - Petersburg - Menard County
 Admitted June 29, 1884.
 Aged 29 Married - Native of Illinois
 Pauper Insane four weeks - Caused by
 ill health, verdict states derangement
 of reproductive organs - Appetite poor.
 Attempted to kill her
 children - Wanted to jump into the well
 and drown herself - Methodist -
 Brought by the Sheriff Morgan Paulner
 who knows very little about the case.
 James Faith (hus.)
 Petersburg Ill.
 In 2. Seems rather anxious and timid,
 fears injury - July 28. Is sitting
 down and inclined to work some
 Jan'y 1/83 Bodily health very good. Mental state
 stationary, very much impaired. Is neat & orderly
 in habit. Sleeps well. Works some reads some.
 July 1/83 No change. Sept 26/83 Visited by her
 mother & daughter. Nov. 6/83 No change.
 Aug. 30/84 Physical health failing, took her bed
 today. Sept 5/84 Eats fairly but is gradually
 growing weaker. Sept 14th 1884 Died at 10.15 P.M.
 from Phthisis - Buried in D.G. Cemetery -

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Memorial For Louisa – Diamond Grove Cemetery, Jacksonville, Illinois

Louisa was buried without a headstone after she died in 1884. She was buried by the State in Diamond Grove Cemetery in section H Lot A Grave 847. This is the hospital section of the cemetery. Her grave location was confirmed by Jim Pierson who is the Superintendent of the Diamond Grove cemetery. Louisa died alone and forgotten by most.

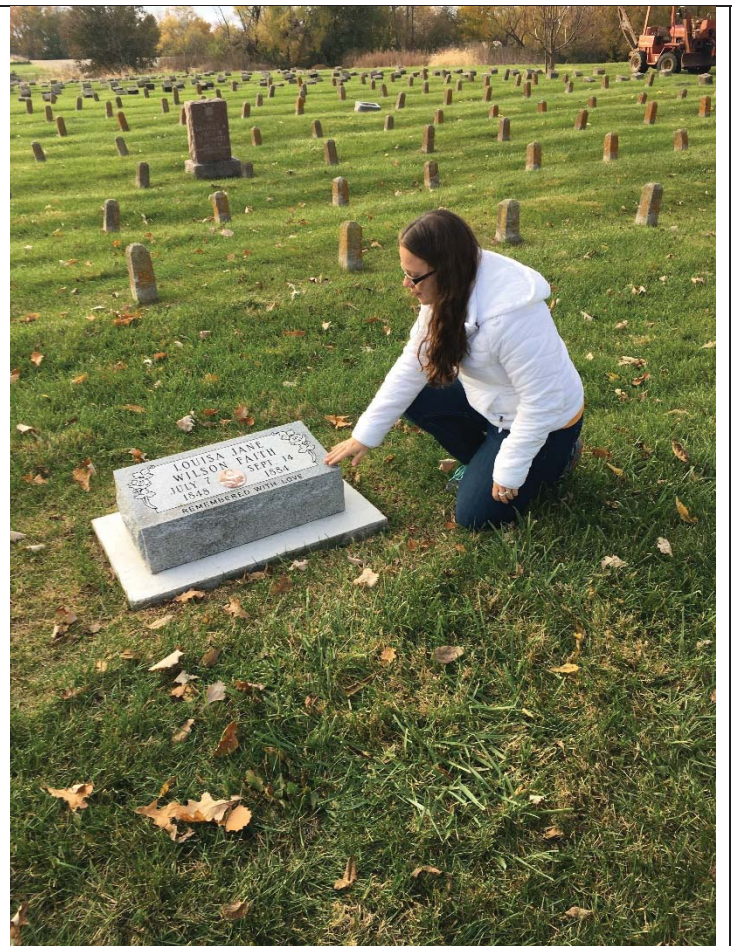
On a Sunday in April, 2018, I told my father about Louisa not having a headstone and that I confirmed with the cemetery that she was not buried in a mass grave with others that she had a spot but not any kind of marker was currently on it. My father said to me he would help donate towards the cost if no one else in her posterity would contribute. I set up a GoFundMe but only my Aunt Mary (my father's sister) was willing to help. My dad generously contributed the remainder of the cost for which I am very grateful.

A monument was order through the Jacksonville Monument Company and installed on September 11, 2018 by Andy Bruington. They did a great job making it. My dad and I designed it.

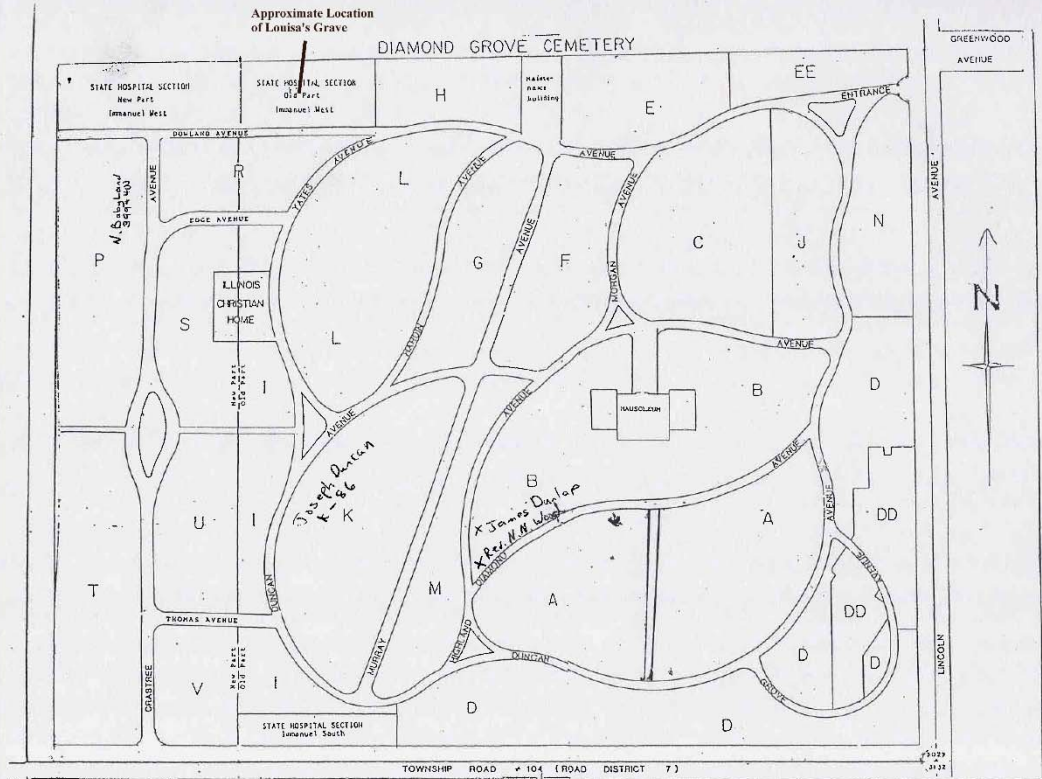


On November 2, 2018, four of us arrived at the Jacksonville, Illinois, at The Diamond Grove Cemetery, after driving 9 hours from Cleveland, Ohio. It is a magnificent cemetery. We got there on an almost most perfect, beautiful, crisp fall day. The leaves of the trees varied from reds and oranges. Just before 5pm, my dad dedicated Louisa's grave. When we first arrived at the cemetery I could feel a strong spirit there. As we got closer to the hospital/pauper section, it was clear that there are not many in this section who are remembered. Most graves have just a name just a stub of 1ft concrete.

I got out of the car and headed towards where I could see a new stone. Immediately upon seeing it I felt her there and felt overwhelmed with love and the Spirit. When my dad was doing the dedication, the air felt thick and it was an unbelievable feeling of such a strong spirit there so thick you could cut it with a knife. I was overcome with happiness as she was now being remembered and it was as if she was there with her loved ones who had also passed, thanking me. As she was not given a funeral, no one had ever come to remember her there ever and she had been in an unmarked grave all these years. I was crying tears of joy and the thick feeling had me shaking. I've never experienced anything like this and it was a wonderful experience. After the dedication, the thickness of the spirit there started to fade. I wanted it to stay. My dad while dedicating her grave delivered a beautiful dedication and the words he spoke flowed out perfectly. Afterwards I hugged him and asked him if he could feel the spirit. He said yes and that it was the hardest and most spiritual dedication he has ever given. We both had tears and it was a touching moment. The cemetery as a whole was beautiful, but the hospital section felt so sad as those there are not remembered as the nicer sections. It would be nice if the state could at least put names where the concrete 1ft pillars mark the people who died they deserve the same recognition too. Louisa didn't even have one of those. (While her grave was unmarked, the location of each grave is well documented in the cemeteries archive records). I'm sure glad that her grave is no longer unmarked.



Bronson And Janet. November 2, 2018 at the Diamond Grove Cemetery (Hospital Section).



Map of The Diamond Grove Cemetery

Louisa's Asylum Health Records

It took a lot of research to get all the information I have. In 2011, I was able to get Louisa's death register for \$1.00 from a state library.

But, acquiring Louisa's asylum records was very difficult. The State of Illinois does not just release mental health records, regardless of the age of the records, without a court order from a judge. Learning about this process and then actually obtaining this court order (without the aid of an attorney) was difficult and time-consuming.

The short story is that I contacted the Illinois State Archives administrator via their website and inquired of them if I could get her records. I sent out 2 emails requesting this.

Eventually, in November, 2018, I corresponded via email with Cathy Popovich, who then instructed me to write to Tracy Davis through the State Health Department of Illinois in Chicago. So, I wrote Tracy a letter asking how to get Louisa's records. I received a letter from Tracy Davis a week later stating I'd have to send her a judge's order and that without that order she could not help me. She suggested an attorney might be able to help with getting an order. I decided to proceed in my quest without the use of an attorney. I then corresponded with Amy via email through the Morgan County Court website. Amy told me I would need to send a letter to Judge Jeffrey Tobin and send Louisa's information such as Date of Birth, and Date of Death and – most importantly, why I would like her records unsealed.

I sent a letter to Judge Tobin on November 21, 2018 and to my amazement and excitement, I received a court approved order from him in the mail on Dec.7, 2018! A copy of this court order was also sent to Tracy Davis. Then, on December 15, 2018 I got a big manila envelope in the mail from Tracy Davis. It was so exciting to get this and to open it. I called my dad right away to info him. We were both thrilled!

Finally, I had in my hand the commitment papers and some other asylum documents on Louisa. The papers tell how she was having suicidal thoughts and wanted to harm her kids. She was committed for being insane and having reproductive health issues. She never hurt anyone. She just had possible thoughts, according to her husband --who reported this about her to the authorities.

The quest to obtain my 3rd great grandmother Louisa Jane Wilson Faith's information was important to me. It has taken many years to obtain the asylum records and to procure a headstone for her. She was loved and is still loved. Now she will be remembered by all who pass by the sacred spot of her final resting place and will know that she is loved and remembered.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MORGAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

FILED

NOV 26 2018

Angie L. Davis
Clerk of Circuit Court Morgan Co. IL


CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 18-CA-20

Having reviewed the request of Janet Gardner, the Department of Human
Services, Division of Mental Health, is authorized to release to Janet Gardner records
involving the following:

LOUISA JANE WILSON FAITH

D.O.B. July 7, 1848
D.O.D. September 14, 1877

Entered: 11/26/18



JEFFERY E. TOBIN
Associate Circuit Judge

JET/AS

Cc: Ms. Tracy Davis, DHS ✓
Ms. Gardner

APPENDIX

Louisa Wilson's Family

Father: George W. Wilson Born: 29 Jan 1812, Harlem, New York

Mother: Nancy Tenny Born: 4 Feb 1814 Danby, Rutland, Vermont Died: about 1850 Leases Grove, Mason, Illinois

Step-Mother: Catherine Black (a widow with two children) Born 1812, Licking, Ohio

In 1853, George and Catherine mortgaged their property. Sometime in late 1854, the family moved to Ringgold County, Iowa. Note, at this period of time, there was an unspecified epidemic that caused the death of many in Mason County. Sometime between 1856 and before 1861, Olive and Louisa returned to Illinois.

It has been recorded in family genealogy that George W. Wilson married Elizabeth A. Glascock, James B. Faith's sister in 1865. No definitive evidence has been found to verify that the George Wilson That Elizabeth Glascock married was Louisa's father (there are a great number of Wilson's in Mason and Menard counties).

Children of George W. Wilson and Nancy Tenny

William H. Wilson: Born 25 May 1834, Leases Grove, Illinois. Married: Margaret Short

George W. Wilson, Jr : Born 1840, Leases Grove, Mason, Illinois Married: Elizabeth Faith

Olive Wilson: Born 1842 in Leases Grove, Mason, Illinois. A marriage certificate (Nov 6, 1861) for an Olive Wilson and **Thomas Neale** exists. The marriage certificate was issued in Lincoln, Logan County, Illinois. Logan is approximately 20 miles from Olive's home town of Leases Grove, Mason County, Illinois. Depending on where their homes were located, they could have lived much closer together than this. Still, there is no corroborating evidence that the Olive Wilson shown in this certificate is Louisa's sister.

Louisa Wilson: Born 1848 in Leases Grove, Mason, Illinois. Married to James B. Faith.



Sisters – Olive and Louisa

Olive and Louisa Wilson . Year: 1864.



Louisa Jane Wilson



William Wilson (Louisa's Brother) and Wife, Margaret Short



Marriage Certificate for Olive Wilson and Thomas Neale 6 Nov 1861

STATE OF ILLINOIS,
LOGAN COUNTY, ss.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,
TO ALL WHO SHALL SEE THESE PRESENTS, GREETING.

Know YE, That License and Permission has been granted to any Minister of the Gospel authorized to Marry by the Church or Society to which he belongs: any Justice of the Supreme Court: Justice of any inferior Court: or any Justice of the Peace: to celebrate and ratify the Marriage of

Thomas C. Neale and Olive Wilson

now both of this County, according to the usual custom and laws of the State of Illinois.

WITNESS, JOHN T. JENKINS, Clerk of the County Court in and for the County of Logan, and the Seal of said Court hereunto affixed, at Lincoln, this

6th day of *October* A. D. 18*61*.

John T. Jenkins Clerk.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, *Logan* COUNTY, ss.

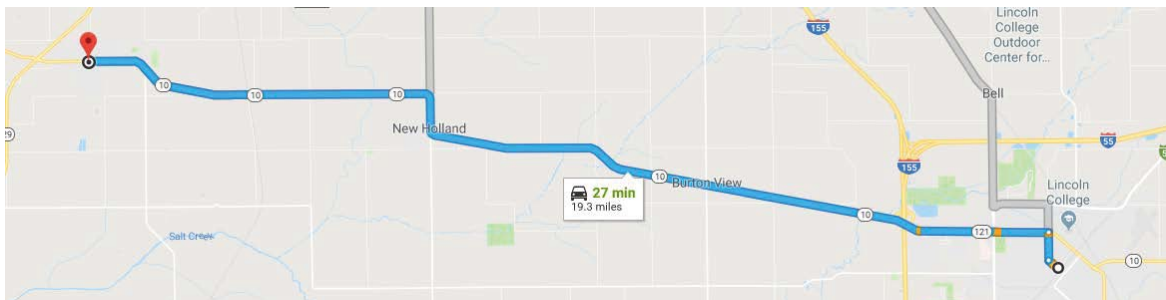
I HEREBY CERTIFY that, on the *6th* day of *October* A. D. 18*61*, I joined in the holy state of Matrimony *Thomas C. Neale* and *Olive Wilson* according to the custom and laws of Illinois.

GIVEN under my hand and seal, this *7th* day of *October* A. D. 18*61*.

Ezekiel Boursaw [L. S.]

GENEALOGY ONLY

Map Showing the Relationship Between Leases Grove, and Lincoln, Illinois. The distance is approximately 20 miles between the towns. Depending on where they were living, Olive and Thomas could have lived within 5 or 10 miles of each other.



Children of George W. Wilson and Catherine Lee

George Wilson and **Catherine Lee** were married 4 January 1851, in Mason County, Illinois. Catherine's first marriage was to **James Black**. Catherine and James were both from Licking County, Ohio. James died 5 December, 1849, in Havana, Mason, Illinois. Catherine died between 1860 and 1863 in Geneva, Allen, Kansas.

(Step-Siblings of Louisa)

Nancy Wilson: Born 1851

Robert Wilson: Born 1854

Emma Catherine Wilson: Born: 1857 in Missouri. Married James Kelley on 28 September 1875. She died on 11 May 1940, in Missouri

Children of James Black and Catherine Lee

John Jeremiah Black: Born 5 Aug 1834 Licking County, Ohio, United States. Died 12 Apr 1910, Yuba City, Sutter, California

Samantha Black: Born: 12 Oct 1836, Licking, Ohio. Died 17 September 1897, Lincoln, Washington

Amos H. Black: Born: 24 August 1838, Licking, Ohio. Died: 3 April 1924, Summit, Bates, Missouri

Malissa G. Black: Born: 14 Feb 1842, Petersburg, Menard, Illinois Died: 21 Mar 1928

Martha O. Black: Born: about 1847, Illinois. Died: after 1860, in Allen, Kansas

James A. Black: Born: March 1848, Menard Co, Illinois, United States



John Jeremiah Black – Son of James Black and Catherine Lee

James B. Faith – Certified Death Record



Health Department
Vital Statistics Division
City of Kansas City, Missouri

Certified Copy Of Death Record

No D1038

Name James B. Faith Sex Male Color White

Date of Death February 19, 1888 Place of Death _____

Birthplace U.S. Single-Married-Widowed-Divorced Married

Cause of Death Ry Accident

Medical Attendant J.W. Elsten

File Number A-300 Date of Filing February 19, 1888

State of Missouri,
City of Kansas City

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the certificate of death of James B. Faith filed in the office of Vital Statistics of Kansas City, Missouri; that the above certificate is filed in said office and is a part of the permanent records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics of Kansas City, Missouri.

Witness my hand as Director of Health, Kansas City, Missouri this 13th day of October, 1901.

Richard M. Biery, M.D.

Director Of Health

Registrar.

5210-004 (Rev. 10/76)

Switchman Killed.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 21.—John B. Faith, a Missouri Pacific switchman, was killed by Wabash engine No. 1376 in the Wabash yards at 6:40 last night. The engine was traveling at the rate of four miles an hour and both engine and fireman were keeping a very close watch on the track when there was a sudden shock and the heavy locomotive left the rails. Both men jumped from the cab to ascertain the cause of the accident when the engineer, William Marks, saw the body of a man lying beneath the engine.

Children of James B. Faith and Louisa Jane Wilson

Idella (e.g. Ida or Gankie) Faith: Born 9 Dec 1868, Ottawa, Kansas Died 11 May 1861. Married Robert Yarrington

Martha Faith: Born 1870 Died 1872, Ottawa Kansas

Alice Faith: Born: 12 Feb 1872 Died 1924 , Married Charles Seelye

George Faith: Born: 1873

William Faith: Born: 1874



Alice Faith

Ida Faith



Ida Faith



Alice Faith Seelye

Research Notes on the Clauser Brothers Photography Studio, in Havanna, Illinois:

1870 census:

William Clauser 22 years old. Living in Tazwell, Illinois

1880 census: No Clauser's living in Havanna, Illinois

1890 census: unavailable

1900 census: William Clauser, age 53.

Listed as a photographer

Conclusion: this photo was taken in the 1890 to 1900 time-frame, when Alice was around 18 to 20 years old.

Mary Jane Rogers Blankship Faith
2nd Wife of James B. Faith



Mary Jane Faith, Seneca Pioneer, Is Claimed by Death

Mrs. Mary Jane Faith, pioneer Seneca, Mo., woman, died Tuesday afternoon at a convalescent home in Commerce. Until one year ago, she had lived all of her 97 years in and around Seneca.

Widely known in the district for her marvelous memory, she was often consulted by student historians of the Tri-State area.

Born March 8, 1851, she was a descendent of one of the old pioneer families who founded Seneca. Her father was the late Judge William Blankenship.

Survivors include two daughters, Mrs. Cora Porter of Miami and Mrs. Eva Helm of Seneca; two sons, Alonzo Rogers of Glendora, Calif., and Charles Rogers of Peggs, Okla.; one sister, Mrs. Julia Roark of Seneca; one brother, John E. Blankenship of Neosho, Mo., Route 2; 16 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren and eight great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete. The Biddlecome Funeral home of Seneca will be in charge.

Children of Alice Faith and Charles Seelye

Dora Seelye : Born 1909, Tazewell County, Illinois, Died 1909

Albert Seelye: Born 1902, Detroit, Michigan, Died 1952

Louis Seelye: Born 1907, Illinois, Died 1956



Children of James Faith and Mary Jane Blankenship

Eva Faith: Born: 1885, Seneca, Newton, Oklahoma , Died 1990 Married Pur

		
<p style="text-align: center;">Eva Faith Helm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Eva and Granddaughter</p>	<p>Mary Blankenship Rogers Faith</p>
		
<p style="text-align: center;">Purdy and Eva Helm</p>		

MARRIAGE LICENSE.

STATE OF MISSOURI,
County of Newton.

THIS LICENSE AUTHORIZES any Judge of a Court of Record, or Justice of the Peace, or any Licensed or Ordained Preacher of the Gospel, who is a citizen of the United States, to solemnize Marriage between

P. E. Helm of *Seneca* in the County of
Newton and State of *Missouri* who is *over* the age of twenty-one years; and
Eva L. Faith of *Seneca* in the County of
Newton and State of *Missouri* who is *under* the age of eighteen years.

Mary J. Faith mother of Eva L. Faith gives her consent to this marriage in writing.

Marriage License of Purdy Helm and Eva Faith



At 106, Eva Helm is six years older than Miami, Okla.

Journal Globe 22 Aug 1991

... and Eva Helm observes her 106th

By Marti Alloun
Globe Staff Writer

MIAMI, Okla. — The City of Miami didn't even exist when Eva Helm was born in 1885.

The 106-year-old woman will reign as the Heritage Queen on a float during the city's Centennial Parade on Saturday, Aug. 31. She is a resident of the Heritage House Nursing Home.

"I can't walk or run. They just drag me here and there," Eva says, her face crinkling into a toothless smile. She is wheelchair-bound, but mentally sharp. Her sense of humor is intact, too.

"About all I can do now is spit," she says.

Eva moved into the nursing home at age 102. Until then, she lived at home with her bachelor son, Leslie Helm, in rural Seneca. Also at 102, Eva had cataract surgery to restore her fading eyesight.

She grew up five miles south of Seneca and attended grade school at No. 1 School in Seneca. In 1902, she married Purdy Helm.

"In the olden times, they used to

name the children after the doctor," she says in explaining Purdy's name. Purdy died in 1947.

"I was married just once. That was enough," Eva says. She had four children delivered by a midwife at home. Two are living.

The former farm wife has never driven a car or taken an airplane trip and hasn't missed either, she says.

"I miss riding in a horse and buggy and milking cows." Eva used to raise chickens and sell eggs, "for whatever I could get." Fifteen cents a dozen was a good price then, she says.

Except for electricity replacing kerosene lights, modern improvements are nothing to brag about, Eva says. Neither are modern presidents, she says.

"Now FDR was a good one."

She has given up the tatting, crocheting and embroidery work she once enjoyed. She still enjoys having the Bible read to her and visiting with her 89-year-old friend, Rose, in the nursing home.

For her birthday next Thursday, Eva says she would like cards and letters.

Eva Faith Helm – 106th Birthday

Eva Faith Helm and half-siblings Cora Porter Rogers and Wiliam Edward Rogers



Eva and Cora were half-sisters. Eva was the daughter of James Faith and Mary Blankenship. Cora and William Rogers Porter were the children of Mary Blankenship's first husband, Jesse Sydney Rogers.



Jesse Rogers. Jesse was an Indian Fighter from 1868 to 1869. He enrolled Oct 22, 1868 in Springfield, Kansas and was Mustered into Service October 29 Topeka Kansas by Col. W.T. Gentry. Jesse served as a private in Company L, of the 19th Kansas Calvary, from Oct 1868 to April 1869. The regiment served under General Sheridan, who conducted an energetic campaign during the winter of 1868 and 1869. No severe fighting resulted, but the Indians were given no rest. The winter was very severe; violent storms were frequent and the snow deep, and the hardships endured by the troops were terrible. The Nineteenth Kansas was mustered out at Fort Hays on the 18th day of April, 1869.

His mustering out papers show:
 Due to Solider: \$8.73
 Due to U.S. for tobacco: \$2.94
 Value of Equipment issued to solider: \$4.08
 2 Horses, valued at \$2.94



EDNA HELM
This is me, taken at Seneca



EVA HELM
This is me and my home.
This is getting a little
Old lady. I look like my
Mother when she was my
Age. (picture) Was taken
Last summer. (Yr?)



Edna Edna

EDNA HELM
This is my daughter Edn that
lives with me. She is a widow
Her husband died in Camp
Crowder. He was a Master
Sargent. Homer Dow.



Aunt EVA HELM and grand-Daughter Roberta Ann



Eva Helm
Bro
Mother



This is EVA and her home and the fat one is my self (Cora Porter) taken last Summer when we were there visiting.

This is my brother Ed. He is dead now and EVA when she was younger and mother (Mary Jane Rogers Faith) taken a long time ago. and me. Cora Porter



Ed Eva mother me

James B. Faith
(2) Wife
Mary Jane
Blankenship
Rogers

Family of Robert H. Faith (brother of James B. Faith)

